

Director, FBI

June 21, 1963

Legat, Manila (105-60) (P)

**COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES -
LABOR MATTERS**

Re Manila letter 4/30/63.

On 6/14/63, while discussing with Legat the development of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Acting Director JOSE G. LUKBAN made available, as a matter of possible research interest to the FBI, the enclosed Report on the Case of AMADO V. HERNANDEZ and the Congress of Labor Organizations (CLO).

Although the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) was outlawed in 1931, it continued to be active, and gained strength when in 1939 it merged with the Socialist Party. During the war the CPP was active in organizing a separate guerrilla group which became popularly known as the HUKS. Their activities included not only activity against the Japanese, but also against the other guerrilla groups. The HUK movement emerged from the war period with substantial strength and considerable local support. As a party the name was changed to the Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan (HMB) and was completely under the leadership and control of the CPP. Politburo.

The identity of Politburo members was kept secret and the general public had little understanding of what was happening. The situation within the government deteriorated and events were shaping up for early communist turnover until the appointment of Secretary of Defense MAGSAYSAY (later President) whose energy and single-minded purpose together with substantial United States assistance turned the tide against the HMB.

In the 1951 raids conducted by the intelligence agencies against various subversive organizations was included the arrest of AMADO V. HERNANDEZ, the President of the Congress of Labor Organizations. This was the coordinating agency for the communist control of all Philippine labor, a complete communist front, and a major communist strong point.

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After the raids came the work of preparing material for court trial. This function was handled by Lt. Colonel JOSE G. LUKBAN, then of the Military Intelligence Legal Office (MILO).

Colonel LUKBAN believes that the preparation of legal proof for presentation in court is of the greatest importance in keeping the democratic processes of a government faced with the problem of massive communist subversion. He considers the HERNANDEZ case a typical example of the problems faced by the government. It is for this reason that he believes the enclosed document would be of interest to the Bureau.

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